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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed electronically with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the below date:

Date: March 31, 2008 Name: Amir N. Penn (Reg. No. 40,767) Signature: 

Our Case No. 9683-261

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Adachi et al.

Serial No. 10/680,205

Filing Date: Oct. 8, 2003

For: IMAGE ENCODING METHOD, IMAGE  
DECODING METHOD, IMAGE  
ENCODING APPARATUS, IMAGE  
DECODING APPARATUS, IMAGE  
ENCODING PROGRAM, AND IMAGE  
DECODING PROGRAM

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) Examiner: Patel, Jayesh A.  
) Group Art Unit No. 2624  
) Confirmation No. 7459  
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**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 15, 2007**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In reply to the Final Office Action dated October 15, 2007, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.